

XXVIII.—Note on Professor G. Seguenza's List of Tertiary Polyzoa from Reggio (Calabria)\*. By the Rev. THOMAS HINCKS, B.A., F.R.S.

WE are indebted to Professor G. Seguenza for a very able report on the Tertiary formations of Reggio, which includes a list of the Polyzoa found in the various beds of the district. Many species supposed to be new are described and illustrated by excellent figures. Amongst these are a number of forms that seem to me to have been raised to specific rank on very insufficient grounds; and as the maintenance of false species is clearly an injury to science, I venture to submit this portion of Prof. Seguenza's work to some critical revision.

*Lepralia elegantissima*, Seguenza (p. 83, pl. viii. fig. 11).

This is undoubtedly referable to *Cribrilina radiata*, Moll, form *innominata*, Couch. The species is a variable one; but Seguenza's Miocene form does not depart in any essential point from the type. It agrees very closely with the Pliocene *Lepralia innominata* of Manzoni (Sitz. d. K. Akad. d. Wiss. in Wien, lix. Bd. i. Abth. Jän.-Heft, 1869, pl. ii. fig. 13). The characters relied upon by Seguenza as distinctive (absence of avicularia, free development of oœcia, &c.) are quite insignificant. He remarks that *L. elegantissima* is most nearly allied to *L. radiata* and *L. figularis*, and more especially to the Floridan form of the latter †. This form, however, is not the true *figularis*, but merely a variety of *radiata* to which I have no doubt *elegantissima* also must be referred.

*Lepralia radiato-foveolata*, Seguenza (p. 129, pl. xii. fig. 20).

Identical with *Microporella violacea*, Johnston. There is perfect agreement with the latter species in all the essential characters, and even the superficial sculpture has a very exact parallel in the Crag form of *M. violacea*, which I have described in my 'History of British Marine Polyzoa' (p. 218, pl. xxx. fig. 4) ‡.

*Cumulipora porosa*, Seguenza (p. 130, pl. xii. fig. 21).

Not distinguishable from the well-known *Smittia trispinosa*,

\* Contained in his valuable work entitled "Le formazioni terziarie nella provincia di Reggio (Calabria)." Memoria del Prof. G. Seguenza, 'Atti della R. Accademia dei Lincei,' 1879-80, serie terza, vol. vi. (physical science class), 1880.

† Smitt, 'Floridan Bryozoa,' pt. 2, pl. v. fig. 112.

‡ See also woodcut, fig. 12, on p. 219 of the same work.

Johnston. The oval and pointed avicularia, which are so characteristic of the species, are noted, and the pore, which is usually present on the front of the oecium, is represented in the figure. The granulose condition of the surface is often met with in old specimens.

*Lepralia radiato-porosa*, Seguenza (p. 129, pl. xii. fig. 19).

A mere variety of *Schizoporella unicornis*, Johnston (including *L. ansata*, Johnston). The only characters noticed as distinctive are a larger number of radiating lines of pores than usual and a more prominent central umbo. Such slight superficial differences are without any special significance amongst the Polyzoa. The size of the umbo is one of the most variable characters.

*Lepralia eximia*, Seguenza (p. 203, pl. xiv. fig. 23).

There can be little doubt, I think, that this is identical with *Membraniporella nitida*, Johnston. So far as I know, the species has not previously been recorded as a fossil. Its range in time is now extended to the Pliocene period.

*Lepralia Calabra*, Seguenza (p. 201, pl. xv. fig. 6).

Undoubtedly a form of the protean *Microporella ciliata*, Pallas. In this species there is the greatest possible diversity in the size of the cells; the present seems to be a somewhat diminutive variety. Altogether this Pliocene form exhibits a very small amount of divergence from the type as compared with many of the known varieties; the specific facies is strongly marked in it. *M. ciliata* is as variable as it is cosmopolitan.

*Lepralia mitrata*, Seguenza (p. 203, pl. xv. fig. 8).

Referable to *Cribrilina radiata*, Moll, form *innominata*. The large size of the cells, the small number of prominent radiating ridges, the depth of the dividing furrows, giving a strongly crenate appearance to the margin, the papillose oecium, all these are well known as occasional conditions amongst the many varieties of this variable form. They have none of them any specific value, as the study of any large series of specimens will abundantly show.

*Lepralia coronata*, Seguenza (p. 295, pl. xvii. fig. 6).

A variety of *Microporella Malusii*, Audouin, chiefly remarkable for the curiously furrowed surface of the oecium,

a peculiarity of the superficial calcification which has no special significance. The shape and basal areolation of the ovicell as well as all the characters of the cell in the Pliocene specimen are thoroughly typical.

*Lepralia thiara*, Seguenza (p. 370, pl. xvii. fig. 57).

= *Cribrilina punctata*, of very normal character. Pliocene and Quaternary.

*Salicornaria mammillata*, Seguenza (p. 294, pl. xvii. fig. 5).

Probably a species of *Myriozoum*; it is certainly not referable to *Salicornaria* (*Cellaria*).

Professor Seguenza's work is of such sterling character and will deservedly have so much weight with the student that it seems peculiarly desirable to prevent these spurious species, if possible, from sheltering themselves under its authority.

XXIX.—On some Stylasteridæ. By JOHN J. QUELCH.

To the Editors of the *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*.

GENTLEMEN,—In reply to the letter of Mr. Bryce Wright, I must first point out that one of the species of *Distichopora* to which I referred as having been omitted from his list was the *D. gracilis*, Dana, the only species of *Distichopora* that bears Dana's name. This was accidentally referred to in my paper as *D. fragilis*.

Mr. Wright states that he did not say that *D. nitida*, V., was of a whitish tint: I might reply, using his mode of expression, that I did not say that he *said* so; I said he *indicated* it; and to justify my statement I quote the following from Mr. Wright's original paper:—"the habitats of the living species being the Gulf-stream and in and about the West-India Islands and Florida, for *D. nitida*, Verrill, and *D. cervina*, *D. foliacea*, *D. sulcata*, *D. barbadiensis*, and *D. contorta* of Pourtales. Most of these species are of a whitish tint, with the exception of *D. foliacea*, which is a pale pink-orange, whereas those inhabiting the Pacific are much more vivid in their colours." I leave it to the judgment of any competent impartial person to decide whether I have misinterpreted Mr. Wright's words or not.